



MAJOR INCIDENT REPORT

A SPECIAL REPORT FROM LOS ANGELES COUNTY FIRE CHIEF P. MICHAEL FREEMAN

INCIDENT:

Foothill Incident
(Management Team Update)

TYPE OF INCIDENT:

Mud and Debris Flow

DISTRICT/LOCATION:

Acton, La Crescenta, La Canada/Flintridge

DATE AND TIME OF UPDATE:

Thursday, January 21, 2010, 4 p.m.

INJURIES/FATALITIES:

None

INVESTIGATION STATUS:

N/A

UPDATE SUMMARY:

LACoFD IMT 1 remains in place providing service to the affected areas. This service includes 4 additional patrols and 5 additional engines moved into the operational area to increase response capabilities in the event of a Mud/Debris Flow. Active patrolling remains in place.

Today's weather event produced a minor mud flow into the backyard of a residence located in the 5400 block of Haskell Street in the City of La Canada/Flintridge. The mud flow breached a homeowner-constructed sand bag retaining wall. The flow did enter the house. Equipment and camp crews were used to address the issue. Minimal damage occurred due to quick actions by Fire Department personnel.

Current weather reports indicate strong intermittent thunderstorms for the next 12 hours, with rain rates of 1.5 inches per hour with significant downdrafts possible. The potential for debris flows remain a concern. Additional Fire Department staffing includes approximately 150 personnel.

Evacuations remain in effect, with the Sheriff's Department providing security in the evacuated areas. Evacuation centers provided by the Red Cross at La Canada Flintridge High School, 4463 Oak Grove Drive, La Canada; Sunland Park Recreation Center, 8651 Foothill Blvd., Sunland, remain open. Marie Kerr Recreation Center, 2723 West Rancho Vista Blvd., Palmdale has been closed.

Animal Shelters remain open at the following locations:

Acton: LA County Animal Care and Control Shelter which will accept large animals, located at 31044 N. Charlie Canyon Rd., Castaic;

La Canada Flintridge: 2 locations - Pasadena Human Society, located at 361 S. Raymond Ave., and Crown City Veterinary Medical Group located at 2657 East Washington Blvd., in Pasadena;

La Crescenta: Baldwin Park Shelter located at 4275 N. Elton, Baldwin Park.



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Road closures will remain in place, and emergency personnel will continue to assess the potential for safe re-entry once the storm danger has passed.

An update will be provided tomorrow morning before 12 noon.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT THE EXECUTIVE OFFICE AT (323) 881-2401